

a source of a pressure pulse for ejecting, via said manifold, fluids that are drawn into said capillaries;

b) drawing a liquid from a liquid source into said capillaries substantially entirely by capillary action;

c) stopping the flow of said liquid substantially at said interface and prior to reaching said upstream conduit;

d) aligning said capillaries with a predetermined location on said substrate; and

e) applying a pressure pulse for ejecting fluids drawn into said capillaries simultaneously onto regions of said substrate for defining a library of materials without contacting said substrate with said capillary.

23. (NEW) The method of claim 22, wherein said dispensing apparatus is mounted on a robotic arm.

24. (NEW) The method of claim 22, wherein said sheath is maintained in place by heat shrinking.

25. (NEW) The method of claim 23, wherein said capillaries are each dimensioned for dispensing an amount of about 10 to about 500 nL.

26. (NEW) The method of claim 25, wherein said capillaries are polyimide coated fused silica, said upstream conduit is stainless steel, and said sheath is PTFE.

Conclusions

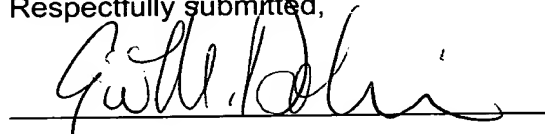
Now pending are claims 8-21 and new claims 22-26. Basis for the present new claims is found throughout the specification and claims of the application as filed, including but not limited to the specification at page 6, lines 4-16; page 17, line 13; page 9, lines 19-23; page 14, line 19 and the drawings. It is believed that all of the claims are in form for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the

earliest possible time. If the Examiner has any questions regarding the present application, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at (248) 593-9900.

If for some reason Applicants have not requested a sufficient extension and/or have not paid a sufficient fee for this response and/or for the extension necessary to prevent the abandonment of this application, please consider this as a request for an extension for the required time period and/or authorization to charge our Deposit Account No. 50-0496 for any fee which may be due.

Dated: March 18, 2002

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric M. Dobrusin", written over a horizontal line.

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